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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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Seventy-second year

Letter dated 16 November 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the texts of the communiqué of the sixteenth Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies and Law-Enforcement Organizations that took place on 4–5 October 2017 in Krasnodar (Annex I), and the statement by the participants of that meeting (Annex II).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 109, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) V. **Nebenzia**

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Annex I to the letter dated 16 November 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Communiqué of the sixteenth Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies and Law-Enforcement Organizations

Participants at the sixteenth Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies and Law-Enforcement Organizations, held on 4–5 October 2017, from 75 countries and 4 international organizations — the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the European Union,

Guided by the fundamental norms and principles of international law, including the principles of the equality and sovereignty of States and non-interference in their internal affairs,

Emphasizing the responsibility of States Members of the United Nations in countering terrorism,

Reaffirming the course set by the Meeting towards establishing a united counter-terrorist front of special services and law-enforcement organizations, with the United Nations playing a central coordinating role, and implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and relevant Security Council resolutions,

Taking into account:

The risk of the emergence of new hotbeds of armed conflict and further expansion of the geography of terrorism;

The unprecedented increase in terrorist activity worldwide;

The threats from foreign terrorist fighters returning from armed conflict zones to their own countries to carry out terrorist activity;

The independent jihadist tactics actively employed by terrorist groups;

The ongoing radicalization of the population and the uncontrolled dissemination of terrorist narratives, including online through the activities of bloggers and on social media;

The use by terrorists of advanced means of communication enabling the cryptographic protection of transmitted data;

The increasing number and technological complexity of computer attacks on the information infrastructures of States;

Threats of a terrorist nature to the holding of major international events;

Determining as priorities:

The creation of a universal counter-terrorist information environment, including by using the resources of the International Counterterrorism Database;

A widespread counter-propaganda campaign against terrorist and extremist narratives;

The strengthening of interaction to prevent information and communications technologies being used for terrorist and other criminal purposes;

The enhancement of practical cooperation among national actors in responding to computer incidents,

Decide to:

1. Issue a joint statement in support of United Nations Security Council resolution 2354 (2017) and the comprehensive international framework to counter terrorist narratives;

2. Enhance cooperation among partners to block channels of terrorist propaganda, including online;

3. Increase the sharing of intelligence concerning identified members, new modus operandi and tactics employed by international terrorist organizations, foreign terrorist fighters and their routes of travel;

4. Take measures to improve cooperation between special services and law-enforcement organizations, including through the United Nations, in order to prevent information and communications technologies being used in terrorist and other unlawful activities;

5. Help promote the norms, rules and principles concerning the responsible behaviour of States in the information space in all international forums, first and foremost the United Nations;

6. Use the Working Group of Security Intelligence and Law-Enforcement Experts on Major International Events Security, which operates within the framework of the Meeting, as a platform for interaction and the sharing of intelligence on possible security threats prior to and during the 2018 FIFA World Cup;

7. Convene the seventeenth Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies and Law-Enforcement Organizations in 2018, in the territory of the Russian Federation, and to begin preparing the agenda for that event.

Annex II to the letter dated 16 November 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the participants at the sixteenth Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies and Law-Enforcement Organizations

(Krasnodar, 4–5 October 2017)

We, the participants at the sixteenth Meeting of Heads of Special Services, Security Agencies and Law-Enforcement Organizations,

Calling for the establishment of a united, global, counter-terrorist front, with the United Nations playing a central coordinating role, based on the fundamental principles of international law that reaffirm the equality and sovereignty of States and non-interference in their internal affairs, and also the leading role and primary responsibility of States in countering terrorism,

Emphasizing the need to coordinate national approaches in order to counter the spread of terrorist ideology and propaganda, which has become one of the principal mechanisms for radicalization and for recruiting terrorists,

Expressing concern about the use of information and communications technologies by terrorists for the organization and promotion of terrorist activities and the direct implementation of acts of terrorism,

Taking into account that international terrorist organizations make extensive use of the information space, including the Internet, blogger-centered milieux and social media to disseminate their ideology and propaganda and encourage involvement in terrorist activity,

1. *Express comprehensive support* for United Nations Security Council resolution 2354 (2017) and the comprehensive international framework to counter terrorist narratives" (hereinafter — "the framework"),

2. *Call for* the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2354 (2017) and for the use of the measures and practical steps recommended in the framework to effectively counter the dissemination of terrorist narratives,

3. *Recognize the need* to formulate and take joint decisions to prevent international terrorist organizations from using the benefits of information and communications technologies for the purposes of disseminating their ideology and propaganda, communication, coordination and organization of terrorist attacks and other unlawful acts,

4. *Note* the importance of developing more advanced methods of monitoring and removing terrorist material disseminated through the Internet and social media, in order to counter and prevent terrorism, incitement of terrorist acts as well as direct or indirect public advocacy of terrorism,

5. *Express our* strong commitment to counter-terrorism objectives and *undertake to work together in order to improve* the efficiency of the collective efforts of the international community of special services, security agencies and law-enforcement organizations.